

May 24 1959

(EXCERPT)

Face the Nation at 5:00 P.M. over WTOP-TV (Washington)  
and the CBS-TV Network:

SENATOR HENRY M. JACKSON, DEMOCRAT OF WASHINGTON,  
INTERVIEWED BY A PANEL OF REPORTERS.

QUESTION: "In connection with our defensive stature, do you feel that our current system of evaluation and gathering of intelligence material is good enough to arrive at the kind of strategy decisions you think ought to be made?"

JACKSON: "I think the Central Intelligence Agency under Mr. Allen Dulles, by and large, has done a good, and in many cases, an outstanding job. It's not the lack of intelligence information; it's our failure to act on the information that's available. We knew long before Sputnik that the Russians were making enormous progress. That's why some of us were able, and did, I think, in the interest of welfare of our country, speak out on this question. I think the CIA has done a good job."

QUESTION: "Senator, has the CIA or any other source given you any special information that would allow you to predict on the outcome of the summit conference?"

JACKSON: (LAUGHED) "No, I guess that would take a little more than a CIA, but I would say that the Russians certainly are anxious to have a summit conference."